



St. Paul's United Church

(Kindersley, Saskatchewan)

March 29th, 2024

Worship Leader: The Rev. Piotr Strzelecki VDM

Musician: Clayton Braybrook

*The Leader will read the parts in regular type.
Please join in the parts in **bold type**.*

WE GATHER AS PEOPLE OF THE STORY

For

GOOD FRIDAY

to reflect on

DEATH OF JESUS

WELCOME TO THIS COMMUNITY OF FAITH:

GREETING:

The grace of our Lord, Jesus Christ, the love of God
and the presence of the Holy Spirit be with you all

And also with you

CALL TO WORSHIP:

Today is a day to remember shadowed times and places.

Sadness and grief surface when we enter this gloomy day.

Yet, we know that death does not have the last word.

It is Good Friday and, in the mystery of God's love, a day of hope.

*Laura Turnbull, Penticton, B.C
Gathering, L/E, 2024, p.39.
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WE ARE NOT ALONE:

The lighting of the Christ Candle ((Matthew 18:20/John 8:12)

We light this candle today as a symbol of the love and grace that saturated the life of our brother and guide, Jesus Christ.

It shines in this place.

It shines in and through us.

It shows us the way on this difficult day.

*Tori Mullin, Hampton U.C., Hampton, N.B. and
Richard Bowley, Quispamsis U.C., Quispamsis, N.B.
Gathering, L/E, 2024, p.39.
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WE SING:

“Go to Dark Gethsemane” (VU# 133)

OPENING PRAYER:

Anointed One, so grateful are we for your willingness to experience such pain and suffering for our sakes.

Humbled are we by the depth of your sacrifice.

Incredibly blessed is all of creation to be so loved.

It is our prayer that no more people should suffer as you suffered,

that no more people should be unjustly tried

as you were tried, tortured as you were tortured,

killed as you were killed.

May those who thirst not receive bitter offerings
but be truly quenched with water and the Word.

May those who are alone and afraid
be embraced by new families.

We wait for your embrace in our silent prayer... *(a time of silent prayer)*

Amen.

*Karen Boivin, Osgoode-Kars U.C., Ottawa, Ont.
Gathering, L/E, 2024, p.39.
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CHOIR ANTHEM:

WE LISTEN TO OUR STORY

John 18:1 – 19:42

(Betrayal, arrest and death of Jesus - excerpts)

This is the story of our faith.

***Faith of our ancestors,
faith that sustains us.***

WE REFLECT ON WHAT WE HEARD

SERMON:

WE SING: “Because You Came” (MV# 64)

*-- the offering and prayers
are brought forward –*

DEDICATION OF OFFERING:

Endless Giving God,

we gather today to remember the gift you gave the world.

You love us so much that you allowed the political powers to crucify Jesus.

We can hardly imagine such an atrocity.

And yet we know the story doesn't end on Good Friday.

That is why we dare to offer our gifts.

We know that our offerings, even on this day, are an Easter message. We give because we hope and love.

Receive them and convert them into new life.

Amen.

*Laura Turnbull, Penticton, B.C.
Gathering, L/E, 2024, p.40.
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PASTORAL PRAYER AND THE LORD'S PRAYER:

WE SING: "God Weeps" (MV# 78)

***WE LEAVE INSPIRED,
CHANGED, CHALLENGED OR PUZZLED
BUT CONTINUING ON OUR STORY***

PASTORAL BLESSING:

... and may the blessing of God,
The Father, the Son and the Holy Spirit
Be with you now and always
Amen!

PASSING OF THE PEACE:

As you go from here, to share the Good News
with all those you will encounter, as you go from here ...
may the Peace of the Lord be with you all.
And also with you.